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PP RUEHDBU RUEHLH RUEHPW
DE RUEHIL #9125/01 2701326
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 271326Z SEP 06
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1467
INFO RUEHTA/AMEMBASSY ALMATY PRIORITY 9623
RUEHAH/AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT PRIORITY 1212
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 0935
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY 1667
RUEHDBU/AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE PRIORITY
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 6241
RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU PRIORITY 7157
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 9373
RUEHNT/AMEMBASSY TASHKENT PRIORITY 1901
RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY 2909
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY 0209
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY 8251
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RHWSMRC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 ISLAMABAD 019125

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SUBJECT: PAKISTAN ELECTIONS (5): MUSHARRAF'S COALITION
OPTIONS...

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REF: A. ISLAMABAD 19121

[1](#)B. ISLAMABAD 19122

[1](#)C. ISLAMABAD 19123

[1](#)D. ISLAMABAD 19124

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires Peter W. Bodde, Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

- [1](#)1. (C) Summary and introduction: Pervez Musharraf has three options for ensuring a solid political foundation for his moderate and progress
 - [1](#)2. (C) This cable, the fifth in a series mapping the political terrain as Pakistan approaches nationwide elections in 2007, assess Preside
 - [1](#)3. (C/NF) Setting aside his personal ambitions, as President Musharraf looks to the 2007 elections and beyond, his fundamental objective is
 - [1](#)4. (C/NF) Musharraf can, of course, stay the course. Under this scenario, Musharraf would stand by the PML, its current leadership and the More importantly, the Chaudharies do not share Musharraf's progressive inclinations. Alternatively, Musharraf could conceivably stick with t
 - [1](#)5. (C/NF) Musharraf could also seek an accommodation with the mainstream secular parties headed by Benazir Bhutto (Pakistan People's Party - ISLAMABAD 00019125 002 OF 003
- League-Nawaz - PML-N). There is much to be said for this option -- especially as it relates to the PPP and Pakistan's smaller regional par
- [1](#)6. (C/NF) The PML-N poses a serious threat to Chaudharies and the ruling PML, as it has a strong base in the Punjab and represents similar c
 - [1](#)7. (C/NF) Of the PPP and PML-N, the PPP is either Musharraf's greater electoral threat or, conversely, his most lucrative coalition partner,
 - [1](#)8. (C/NF) Musharraf will find it difficult to reach an agreement with the exiled leaders if they continue to make such a deal contingent or

ISLAMABAD 00019125 003 OF 003

BODDE "